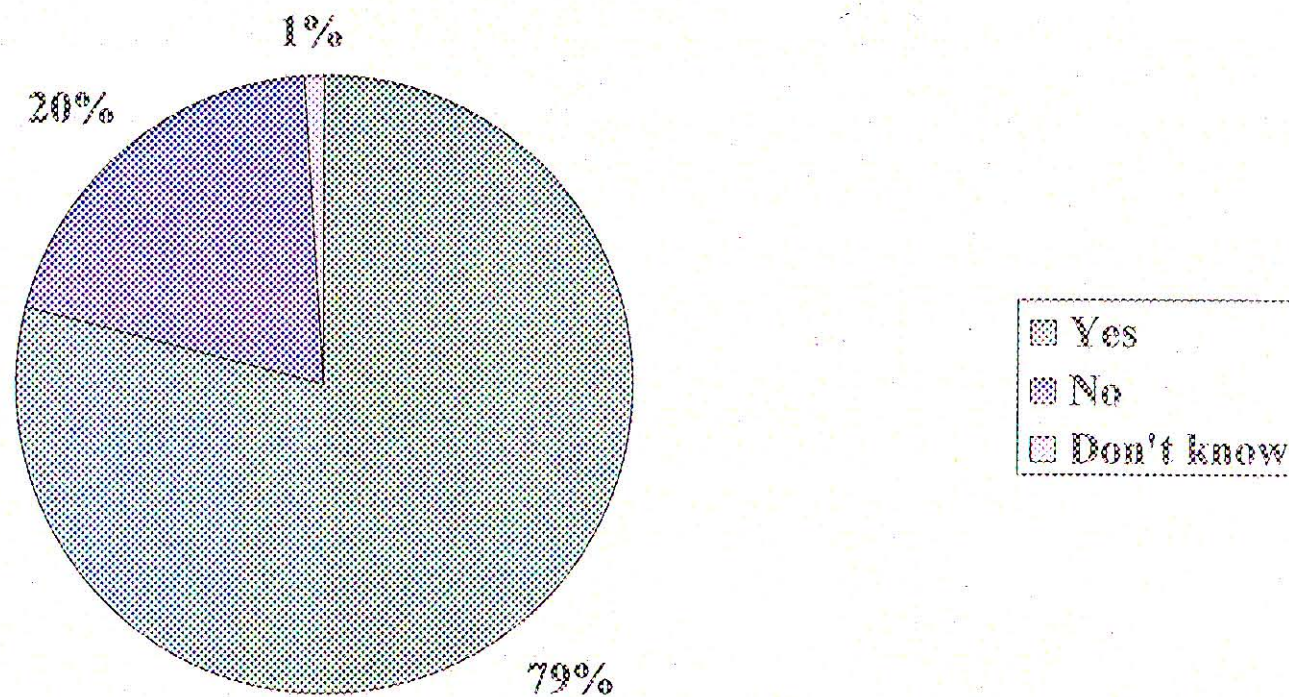


Living on a Fixed Income?

Q16. Would you say that you are living on a fixed income?



Base = 869 adult Americans age 60 and over

Topline Questionnaire

Topline Results of Telephone Interviews with 860 Adult Americans Age 60 and Over,
Conducted March 16-25, 2006.

ASK IF 60 YEARS OF AGE AND OLDER, S8 [10-13], ONLY.
ALL OTHERS SKIP TO NEXT SECTION

H1 Do you think the federal taxes and fees now being assessed on your phone bill are too high, too low or about right? Would you say . . . [READ LIST. RECORD ONE ANSWER]
(N=659)

43% Much too high
27 Somewhat too high
-- Somewhat too low
-- Much too low
22 Or, about right
7 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE/REFUSED

H2 One of your long-distance fees—for the federal “universal service fund”—is based on how much long-distance phone service you use. There is a plan in Washington that would change this fee to a flat charge for every phone line you have—even if you don’t use the phone line or lines to make any long-distance calls. Do you think switching this federal phone charge from a PAY-FOR-WHAT-YOU-USE basis to a FLAT PER-LINE rate—regardless of how much long-distance you use—is fair or unfair? Would you say . . . [READ LIST. RECORD ONE ANSWER]

8% Very fair
15 Somewhat fair
16 Somewhat unfair
50 Very unfair
12 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE/REFUSED

H3 Some people in Washington want to change the “universal service fund” fee on your phone bill so that it will start paying for broadband access in rural areas. This change, however, could end up being funded by shifting more of the burden of the “universal service fund” fee onto the shoulders of senior citizens and low-income individuals who make few or even no long-distance phone calls. Would you support or oppose such a shift? Would you say you . . . [READ LIST. RECORD ONE ANSWER]

3% Support it strongly
6 Support it somewhat
15 Oppose it somewhat
68 Oppose it strongly
9 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE/REFUSED

H4 The U.S. Federal Communications Commission is looking at changing the “universal service fund” fee on your phone bill so that 43 million households—most of them seniors and low-income individuals—would pay in excess of \$700 million more into the federal fund than they do now. Would you support or oppose such a change? Would you say you . . . [READ LIST. RECORD ONE ANSWER]

2% Support it strongly
4 Support it somewhat
12 Oppose it somewhat
74 Oppose it strongly
8 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE/REFUSED

H5 How much have you cut back on your long-distance calling in the LAST TWO YEARS in order to save money needed for other things, such as prescription drugs, heating bills and other energy charges, or other expenses? Would you say you are . . . [READ LIST. RECORD ONE ANSWER]

18% Calling quite a bit less
15 Calling somewhat less
2 Calling somewhat more
3 Calling quite a bit more
55 Or, has there been no change in your long distance calling
6 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE/REFUSED

H6 If your phone bill was raised by \$1 to \$2 every month in higher federal phone fees would you cut back on your long-distance phone calling? Would you say . . . [READ LIST. RECORD ONE ANSWER]

34% Definitely yes
17 Maybe yes
11 Maybe no
29 Definitely no
10 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE/REFUSED

H7 Would you say that you are living on a “fixed income”?

79% YES
20 NO
1 DON'T KNOW/NOT SURE/REFUSED

Ranking by % of Contribution - who gets the biggest % out and not

	Pay In	Take Out	Amount Com / (loss)	% of	Phone # by state as of 12/31/04 (000)	Projected Contribution based on phone number			Total Gap \$1 per mo	Total Gap \$1.50 per mo	Total Gap \$2 per mo
	USF (millions)	USF (millions)	(millions)	Total Contribution		\$1 per month per no. in \$ 000.	\$1.5 per month per no. in \$ 000.	\$2 per month per no. in \$ 000.			
Alaska	\$13,428	\$123,758	\$105,330	572%	1,081	\$12,972	\$19,456	\$25,944	\$5,456	(\$1,000)	(\$7,518)
North Dakota	\$13,004	\$81,519	\$40,515	373%	973	\$11,676	\$17,514	\$23,352	\$1,328	(\$4,510)	(\$10,349)
South Dakota	\$14,050	\$64,645	\$50,595	360%	1,117	\$13,404	\$20,106	\$26,808	\$646	(\$6,056)	(\$12,756)
Wyoming	\$12,667	\$57,550	\$44,883	354%	842	\$10,104	\$15,156	\$20,208	\$2,563	(\$3,489)	(\$7,541)
Mississippi	\$50,504	\$214,558	\$164,054	325%	4,139	\$49,668	\$74,502	\$99,336	\$836	(\$11,998)	(\$48,801)
Montana	\$20,754	\$80,674	\$59,910	289%	1,301	\$15,612	\$23,418	\$31,224	\$5,152	(\$2,654)	(\$19,463)
Puerto Rico	\$42,844	\$126,026	\$83,382	200%	3,617	\$43,404	\$65,106	\$86,808	(\$760)	(\$21,452)	(\$44,164)
Kansas	\$51,475	\$140,381	\$88,906	173%	4,337	\$52,044	\$78,066	\$104,088	(\$569)	(\$26,544)	(\$51,612)
Oklahoma	\$64,602	\$155,858	\$95,257	147%	5,150	\$61,800	\$92,700	\$123,600	\$2,802	(\$26,600)	(\$58,900)
Vermont	\$14,953	\$35,667	\$20,714	138%	2,000	\$24,000	\$36,000	\$48,000	(\$2,047)	(\$21,047)	(\$33,047)
Idaho	\$25,532	\$80,700	\$32,168	113%	2,391	\$25,592	\$43,038	\$57,394	(\$190)	(\$14,500)	(\$28,850)
New Mexico	\$35,583	\$81,304	\$43,711	111%	2,936	\$35,232	\$52,848	\$70,464	\$3,381	(\$14,255)	(\$31,571)
West Virginia	\$36,526	\$74,715	\$38,189	105%	2,224	\$26,668	\$40,032	\$53,376	\$9,036	(\$3,506)	(\$19,850)
Louisiana	\$79,445	\$141,462	\$62,017	78%	7,770	\$93,240	\$139,860	\$186,480	(\$13,788)	(\$52,418)	(\$107,008)
Maine	\$26,524	\$46,795	\$20,272	76%	2,218	\$26,616	\$39,924	\$53,232	(\$98)	(\$12,490)	(\$26,768)
Iowa	\$54,802	\$95,171	\$40,369	74%	4,819	\$57,328	\$86,742	\$115,656	(\$2,936)	(\$11,940)	(\$26,894)
Nebraska	\$33,527	\$56,146	\$22,619	67%	3,082	\$36,984	\$55,476	\$73,968	(\$3,457)	(\$11,940)	(\$40,441)
Alabama	\$83,254	\$128,659	\$45,405	55%	7,733	\$92,796	\$139,194	\$185,592	(\$6,403)	(\$26,940)	(\$52,338)
Kentucky	\$69,578	\$95,026	\$25,448	37%	6,774	\$81,288	\$121,932	\$162,576	(\$11,716)	(\$31,354)	(\$62,098)
Texas	\$376,947	\$493,387	\$116,440	31%	40,000	\$480,000	\$720,000	\$960,000	(\$13,855)	(\$143,055)	(\$287,055)
Wisconsin	\$96,767	\$123,456	\$26,689	28%	8,548	\$103,776	\$155,664	\$207,552	(\$7,089)	(\$28,807)	(\$419,785)
Minnesota	\$93,855	\$118,075	\$24,220	26%	10,164	\$121,968	\$182,952	\$243,936	(\$26,113)	(\$59,081)	(\$100,081)
South Carolina	\$83,569	\$103,863	\$20,294	24%	6,939	\$83,268	\$124,902	\$166,536	\$301	(\$41,303)	(\$82,907)
Oregon	\$71,889	\$88,547	\$16,658	23%	6,376	\$76,512	\$114,768	\$153,024	(\$1,529)	(\$42,876)	(\$81,735)
Arizona	\$110,860	\$134,016	\$23,356	21%	10,528	\$126,336	\$189,504	\$252,672	(\$15,876)	(\$59,844)	(\$142,012)
Missouri	\$112,122	\$112,490	\$376	0%	9,769	\$117,228	\$175,842	\$234,456	(\$6,168)	(\$43,720)	(\$81,304)
Georgia	\$193,011	\$178,893	(\$14,118)	-7%	16,690	\$260,368	\$390,552	\$520,736	(\$17,207)	(\$117,391)	(\$247,525)
Washington	\$126,321	\$120,938	(\$5,383)	-4%	12,133	\$135,595	\$218,394	\$291,192	(\$19,278)	(\$59,073)	(\$108,871)
California	\$613,131	\$575,753	(\$37,378)	-6%	66,418	\$767,036	\$1,150,553	\$1,534,068	(\$183,017)	(\$582,421)	(\$966,945)
Colorado	\$191,558	\$26,884	(\$164,674)	-8%	18,290	\$123,480	\$185,220	\$246,960	(\$15,914)	(\$71,654)	(\$139,794)
Tennessee	\$109,403	\$94,659	(\$14,744)	-14%	10,203	\$123,158	\$184,734	\$246,312	(\$13,353)	(\$74,031)	(\$136,608)
Utah	\$42,330	\$33,089	(\$9,241)	-22%	4,662	\$47,624	\$71,436	\$95,248	(\$15,204)	(\$44,106)	(\$72,918)
New York	\$778,007	\$286,303	(\$491,704)	-34%	36,191	\$434,369	\$651,553	\$868,737	(\$58,200)	(\$275,371)	(\$490,547)
North Carolina	\$172,892	\$128,759	(\$44,133)	-26%	15,064	\$180,768	\$271,152	\$361,536	(\$7,776)	(\$58,190)	(\$108,644)
Indiana	\$167,639	\$72,679	(\$94,960)	-33%	9,570	\$118,840	\$178,260	\$237,680	(\$7,210)	(\$41,840)	(\$82,050)
Nevada	\$57,529	\$37,196	(\$20,333)	-36%	5,194	\$62,836	\$94,252	\$125,668	(\$4,600)	(\$26,964)	(\$50,128)
Hawaii	\$25,247	\$15,007	(\$10,240)	-37%	2,618	\$31,292	\$47,036	\$62,784	(\$6,140)	(\$21,841)	(\$37,357)
Virginia	\$172,308	\$134,469	(\$37,839)	-38%	13,137	\$181,644	\$272,466	\$363,288	(\$6,788)	(\$50,190)	(\$100,982)
Rhode Island	\$20,941	\$12,157	(\$8,784)	-41%	2,491	\$29,002	\$43,503	\$57,994	(\$6,992)	(\$24,396)	(\$39,291)
Pennsylvania	\$241,800	\$140,867	(\$100,933)	-41%	23,081	\$276,872	\$415,308	\$553,744	(\$35,172)	(\$123,938)	(\$257,141)
Ohio	\$195,484	\$111,121	(\$84,363)	-43%	19,061	\$228,732	\$343,096	\$457,464	(\$13,268)	(\$54,514)	(\$107,980)
Michigan	\$163,514	\$85,471	(\$78,043)	-50%	15,403	\$221,434	\$332,156	\$442,840	(\$61,910)	(\$162,622)	(\$275,334)
New Hampshire	\$39,913	\$14,185	(\$25,728)	-54%	2,785	\$33,420	\$50,130	\$66,840	(\$2,617)	(\$19,217)	(\$38,937)
Illness	\$230,376	\$122,652	(\$107,724)	-55%	23,822	\$295,694	\$443,536	\$591,378	(\$58,488)	(\$196,420)	(\$344,350)
Florida	\$288,167	\$137,370	(\$150,797)	-54%	23,361	\$302,730	\$454,095	\$605,460	(\$16,579)	(\$217,536)	(\$410,300)
Massachusetts	\$149,153	\$11,465	(\$137,688)	-73%	15,809	\$195,308	\$292,962	\$390,616	(\$18,154)	(\$58,809)	(\$108,470)
New Jersey	\$215,111	\$45,190	(\$169,921)	-79%	15,267	\$215,804	\$323,706	\$431,608	(\$4,383)	(\$114,139)	(\$222,917)
Connecticut	\$87,282	\$16,398	(\$70,884)	-81%	8,717	\$89,664	\$134,496	\$179,328	\$6,078	(\$21,634)	(\$43,996)
Maryland	\$130,052	\$11,208	(\$118,844)	-91%	12,739	\$132,896	\$200,344	\$267,120	(\$2,018)	(\$99,256)	(\$175,084)
Dist. Of Columbia	\$39,873	\$2,267	(\$37,606)	-92%	2,580	\$41,720	\$62,580	\$83,440	(\$14,977)	(\$25,457)	(\$40,427)
Delaware	\$21,306	\$1,752	(\$19,554)	-98%	2,193	\$26,368	\$39,552	\$52,736	(\$5,182)	(\$16,376)	(\$31,558)
	\$ 5,690,952	\$ 5,482,819	\$(208,133)		544,670	\$6,536,640	\$9,804,960	\$13,073,040	(\$845,088)	(\$1,133,108)	(\$2,381,128)